

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE—March 24, 2004

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FWP APPROVES FISHING CONTESTS

Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks has approved 32 fishing contests for 2004.

Under the state's fishing contest rules, applications for open water fishing contests were due Nov. 1. There are no holiday weekend contests under the new rules and contests may not be held on consecutive weekends on any water except Fort Peck Reservoir and Flathead Lake.

Participants must comply with state fishing regulations, including daily and possession limits, and most contests require catch-and-release fishing.

Details on the proposed contests are in the table below and on the FWP web site at www.fwp.state.mt.us under Public Notices.

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SPRING, SUMMER AND FALL 2004 FISHING DERBIES

DATE	LOCATION	FISH SPECIES	CONTEST NAME AND SPONSOR
March 12- April 4	Flathead Lake	Lake Trout	Spring Mack Days S&K Marina and Polson Outdoors
April 3-4	Tongue River Res.	Black Bass	Federation Qualifier MT B.A.S.S. Fed.
May 1	Fort Peck	Walleye	Tough Guy Walleye Tournament Jordan Chapter Walleyes Unlimited
May 1-2	Noxon Rapids Res.	Black Bass	Noxon Buddy Tournament MT B.A.S.S. Fed.
May 15-16	Lake Koocanusa	Trout and Salmon	2 nd Annual Trout & Salmon Derby Koocanusa Resort

May 15-16	Fort Peck	Bass	E. Montana Tri-State Tournament E. MT Bass Anglers
May 21-22	Fresno Reservoir	Walleye	Fresno Walleye Challenge Fresno Chapter Walleyes Unlimited
June 5	Canyon Ferry	Carp	Canyon Ferry Carp Safari MT Bowhunters Association
June 5-6	Fort Peck Reservoir (Hell Creek)	Black Bass	Federation Qualifier MT B.A.S.S. Federation
June 5-6	Fort Peck Reservoir (Rock Creek)	Walleye	Rock Creek Walleye Tournament Wolf Point Chapter Walleyes Unlimited
June 12-13	Tiber Reservoir	Walleye	Tiber Walleye Challenge MT Walleyes Unlimited
June 18, 19, 20	Fort Peck Reservoir	Northern Pike	4 th Annual Pike-masters Tournament MT Pikemasters
June 20	Newlan Creek Reservoir	Rainbow	Father's Day Fish Derby White Sulphur Springs Lions Club
June 26-27	Canyon Ferry	Walleye	Canyon Ferry Walleye Festival Townsend Area Chamber of Commerce
July 8-10	Fort Peck	Walleye	Governors Cup Walleye Derby Glasgow Chamber of Commerce
July 10-11	Lake Koocanusa	Rainbow Trout	Annual Tobacco Valley Rod & Gun Club Derby
July 17	Noxon Rapids Reservoir	Black Bass	Noxon Junior Tournament Montana B.A.S.S.

			Federation
July 17	Fort Peck	Walleye	Women's Hell Creek Walleye Tournament Jordan Chapter Walleyes Unlimited
July 17	Canyon Ferry	Walleye	Broadwater Rod & Gun Club Walleye Derby
July 23-24	Fort Peck	Walleye	Hell Creek Walleye Tournament Jordan Chamber of Commerce
July 24-25	Noxon Rapids Res.	Black Bass	Tri-State Tournament Clark Fork Bass Anglers
August 6-7	Fort Peck	Walleye, Bass, Northern Pike	Fish for a Cure Cystic Fibrosis Foundation
August 7-8	Flathead Lake	Mackinaw Whitefish N. Pike Minnow	2004 Mac Attack Del's Bar Somers, MT
August 14-15	Fort Peck	Walleye	Fall Classic Walleye Derby Glasgow Distributors
August 15	Hauser Reservoir	Perch and Walleye	John Arnold Fish Derby Upper Missouri River Chapter Walleyes Unlimited
August 21	Fort Peck	Walleye	Ladies Walleye Tournament Glasgow Chapter Walleyes Unlimited
August 28	Fort Peck	Chinook Salmon	Glasgow Area Chamber of Commerce Salmon Derby
August 28-29	Yellowtail Res. (Big Horn Lake)	Black Bass	Federation Qualifier Montana B.A.S.S. Federation

Sept. 11	Fresno Reservoir	Walleye	Roy Robertson Memorial Tournament Fresno Chapter Walleyes Unlimited
Sept. 17-18	Big Horn Lake	Walleye	Bighorn Lake Walleye Challenge Billings Chapter Walleyes Unlimited
Sept. 18-19	Noxon Rapids Res.	Black Bass	Federation Qualifier Montana B.A.S.S. Federation
Oct. 29 to Nov. 21	Flathead Lake	Lake Trout	Fall Mack Days S&K Marina, Polson Outdoors